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Oct 24, 1820

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At the request of a committee of the Citizens of Ray county I make the following statement in relation to the recent movements, plans & intentions of the Mormons in the Counties of Caldwell & Daviess.

Shortly after the settlement of the difficulties at Devitt in Carroll County, a call was made by the Mormons at Far West, in Caldwell County, for volunteers to go to Daviess County, to disperse the mob, as they said. On the day before this Joseph Smith, the prophet, had preached in which he said, that all the Mormons, who refused to take up arms, if necessary, in difficulties with the citizens, should be shot, or otherwise put to death; and as I was then with my family, I thought it most prudent to go, and did go with my wagon, as the driver-

We marched to Adamson, and found no troops or mob in Daviess County. Scouting parties frequently went out & brought in intelligence that they had seen from three to five men. We got to Diamond on Tuesday evening, & on the next day a company of about eighty of the Mormons, commanded by a man, fictitiously named Captain Fearnot, marched to Gallatin. They returned and said they had run off from Gallatin twenty or thirty men and had taken Gallatin had taken on prisoner and another had joined the Company. I afterwards

learned from the Moormong, that they had
burned Gallatin, and that it was done by the
aforesaid Company that marched there. The
Moormong informed me that they had hauled
away all the goods from the store in Gallatin,
and deposited them at the Bishop's store houses,
at Hamondialunow. On the same day Lyman
Wight marched about eighty horsemen for Mill-
port. He returned before night and called for
Joseph Smith & Hiram Smith, to report to them (saw
Hiram being Counsellor of said Joseph the prophet)
and said Wight reported that he had been in sight
of Millport. Saw no one to fight, but that the
people generally had gone & left their houses
and property. The prophet on hearing the prop:
erty was left, commenced a reply & said "We
had better see to it", when Wight stopped him
by saying never mind, we will have a private
council, and Smiths replied very well. The pri:
vate council, I did not hear. The men were
dismissed to go to their camps. The same even:
ing a number of footmen came up from the
direction of Millport, laden with property,
which, I was informed, consisted of beds, clocks,
& other household furniture. The same night,
33 I think, about three wagons were despatched
for about forty bee quins, & the next day saw several
quins, where they were splitting them up & taking the

honey & burning the gums, in which business
 of taking out the honey, but few were engaged,
 for fear, as they said, they would be called on as witnesses
 against them. When Wight returned from Millport,
 & informed Smith that the people were gone & ~~the~~
 property left, Smith asked him, if they had left any
 of the negroes for them, & Wight replied no. Upon which
 some one laughed and said to Smith, you have lost your
 negroe then. During the same time a company, called
 the fur company, were sent out to bring in fat hogs,
 & cattle - calling the hogs, bears & the cattle, buffaloes.
 They brought in at one time seven cattle, & at another
 time four or five belonging to the people of Davis -
 Idags were brought in dead, but I know not how many,
 I saw only two -

They have among them a company consist:
 :ing of all that are considered true Mormons, called the
 Danites, who have taken an oath to support the heads
 of the Church in all things, that they say or do, whether
 right or wrong. Many however of this land are much
 dissatisfied with this oath, as being against moral and
 religious principles. On Saturday last I am informed
 by the Mormons, that they had a meeting at Far West,
 at which they appointed a company of twelve, by
 the name of the destruction company, for the pur:
 :pose of burning & destroying, & that if the people of Bun:
 :combe came to do mischief upon the people of lead:
 :well, & committed depredations on the Mormons,

they were to burn Bencombe, & if the people of Clay & Ray made any movements against them, this destroying company were to burn Liberty & Richmond. This burning was to be done secretly, by going as incendiaries. At the same meeting I was informed they passed a decree that no Mormon dissenter should leave Caldwell County alive, & that such as attempted to do it, should be shot down & sent to tell their tale in eternity. In a conversation between Doct. Avarad & other mormons, said Avarad proposed to start a pestilence among the gentiles as he called them, by poisoning their corn, fruit &c. and saying it was the work of the Lord, and said Avarad advocated lying for the support of their religion, & said it was no harm to lie for the Lord. The plan of said Smith, the prophet, is to take this state, & he professes to his people to intend taking the U. S. & ultimately the whole world. This is the belief of the Church, & my own opinion of the prophet's plans & intentions.

It is my opinion that neither said Joseph Smith, the prophet, nor any one of the principal men, who is firm in the faith, could be indicted for any offence in the County of Caldwell. The prophet inculcates the notion, & it is believed by every true mormon, that Smith's prophecies are superior to the law of the land.

I have heard the prophet say that he should yet tread down his enemies & walk over their dead bodies. That if he was not let alone, he would be a second Sennacherib to this generation & that he would make it

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it one gore of blood, from the Rocky mountains to the Atlantic ocean. That like Sphonomer, whose motto, in treating for peace was the Alcoran, or the sword, so should it be eventually with us, for Smith or the sword.

These last statements were made during the last summer. The number of armed men at Adamondiamow, was between three & four hundred

Thomas B. Spearsh

Richmond Mo.

October the 24th 1838

Sworn to & Subscribed before me the day herein written

Henry Jacobs, J. P. Ray County Mo.

The most of the statements in the foregoing disclosure of Thomas B. Spearsh, I know to be true. the remainder I believe to be true.

Richmond, Oct: 24. 1838.

Orson Hyde de.

sworn to & subscribed before me on the day above written

Henry Jacobs J. P. B.

The undersigned Committee on the part of the citizens of Ray County have no doubt, but that Thomas B. Spearsh & Orson Hyde, whose names are signed to the foregoing certificates have been members of the Mormon Church, in full fellowship until very recently, when they voluntarily abandoned the Mormon